

# Red Spy Led Dissidents

By CHARLES BARTLETT

He differed openly with his superior officer in Ankara, Gen. Rubenko, and he was not promoted after being relieved of his duty. But the support which he enjoyed from the military hierarchy was evidenced by his reassignment, after he returned to Moscow, to a highly sensitive post. He was assigned to the State Committee for the Coordination of Scientific Research Work, an apparatus of

Col. Penkovsky was politically motivated and he was closely associated with some of his country's most important military officers. The circumstances indicate at the very least that major officials were seriously negligent in dealing with him and possibly that a

The chief of staff of the Red Army and Gen. Serov's immediate superior, Marshal Matvei Zakhlarov, was removed from his post in March and the chief marshal of the artillery, Sergei Varontsov, is also said to have been dismissed. He was Col. Perkovsky's commander in the war and a close friend. It is further believed that Col. Perkovsky's superior in the State Scientific Committee, D. M. Gvishlana, is in trouble. Mr. Gvishlana is the son-in-law of Aleksi Kosygin, the first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

is judged possible that the politicians may use the case as leverage against the group of professional officers who have questioned with increasing boldness the civilian intrusion upon military judgments.

The Penkovsky case has lent considerable substance to previous suspicions of the existence of a cult of army officers who are hostile to the control of the party and unsympathetic to its aims. This cult appears to have survived the past purges and the ouster of Marshal Zhukov in 1957 and to believe that Premier Khrushchev would not dare at this

These suspicions were sharpened by Marshal Malinovsky's abrupt diminution of Mr. Khrushchev's vaunted role in the battle of Volograd in a recent magazine article in which he praised Marshal Zhukov highly. An unknown official

named Col. M. Skidro, writing in the February 26 issue of the *Kommunist of the Armed Forces*, asserted that while technical developments had forced political leaders to become military specialists they had also forced military leaders to be "active conductors of the policy of the state." He wrote that this role on the part of military leaders "is growing" at this time.

Quoting Friderich Engels, Col. Skidoo wrote that the role of the military leaders may be greatest "at the moment of failure, when the army has suffered defeat and is forced to retreat." He was patently referring to the setback in Cuba and could be interpreted as suggesting a dramatic extension of military authority.

Many rumors are circulating in Moscow that Marshal Zhukov, now 68, is to be brought back to active duty. If this is so, many will believe that the former marshal, retired in 1947 for his support of the "right-wing" faction, is being called back to oppose the "leftists" who are now in power. Zhukov's return to active duty would be a major political move.